

PRIESTS OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS (SCJ) DEHONIANS-INDIA

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INDIAN DEHONIAN CONFRERES'S WERE BEING HIT BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC SECOND WAVE

Dear Confreres in Christ Jesus!

Seasonal greetings to you all from the District Administration.

Indeed, we are happy to submit the brief report of our Indian District about Pandemic COVID-19. It is very painful situation for the people of India and the country is in a helpless situation. Yet, we fight the battle and relying on God's providence. It is true that the death rates are increasing day by day and we are all in a fearful state to carry on our day-to-day activities. In fact, our Dehonians are not spared from this pandemic as many of our confreres are also affected. They had struggled like others to be admitted in the hospitals as there was lack of Oxygen supply, Beds and Rooms. At the same time, the hospitals are also demanding to pay huge amount to continue the medications. With this brief narration we would like to present the details of our confreres in our Indian District.

District Community:

Fr. Rinu Jose, the District Superior was tested positive and hospitalized in Kerala for a week. He is getting better after the medication and still under observation. Fr. Roy, the District Treasurer was tested Negative. But found to be with symptoms and got admitted in the hospital in Chennai. His lungs were affected by 14/25 and was given 6 doses of Remdesivir Injections. Now, he is back to the District Community and under home quarantine.

<u>Dehon Prema Nilayam</u>: (Minor Seminary)

Four of the community members **Fr. Joseph Madanu**, **Fr. Prem**, **Br. Pavan and Br. Kiran** were tested positive. After the medication Fr. Joseph and Br. Kiran were recovered and back to normal life and the other 2 are in home quarantine. Fr. Joseph Thambi (Benargi), the newly ordained priest was tested positive and was hospitalized in JMJ hospital, Guntur. He was in critical condition and 50 % of his lungs were affected and had a breathing problem. He was hospitalized for more than a week and given 6 doses of Remdesivir Injections. By the mercy of God, he is out of danger and back to Gorantla Community and continuing his medication. Dehon Prema Nilayam community is supporting the confreres and doing their best. As the exams are postponed, the minor seminarians had gone for vacation.

Sacred Heart Ashram: (Novitiate)

In the Novitiate community, 4 of our priests Fr. Naveen, Fr. Christy, Fr. Kiran, and Fr. Prasad and ten of our Novices were affected and tested positive later. Fr. Naveen and Fr.

Christy were admitted in the hospital due to the infection in the lungs. They were discharged from the hospital after a couple of days. Fr. Kiran, Fr. Prasad and the novices are recovered, and they are safe at present. **Bro. Moses** was also tested positive and got admitted in the hospital due to severe cough. He is doing good and will be discharged soon.

Christu Dehon Nivas: (Theologate)

In Christu Dehon Nivas community, **Fr. Sunder and Br. Ashin** were tested positive and Fr. Harish and Br. Alex were found to be with symptoms but tested negative. Four of them were isolated for two weeks and given proper care and concern. The Community had taken necessary precautions to protect everyone in the community. The affected confreres will go for the test once again. The rest of the community members and theologians are safe and doing well.

Dehon Vidya Sadhan: (Philosophy)

In Dehon Vidya Sadhan community, **ten** of our brothers (Students of Philosophy) were tested positive and are kept under home quarantine for few days. Five of them are responding well and the other five are recovering slowly.

Dehon Bhavan: (Minor Seminary)

All the community members were found with mild symptoms in the beginning and quarantined themselves for 2 weeks. After the self-quarantine, they are all safe now. Fr. Antony Jose had gone for covid test couple of days back and is waiting for the report.

Our Lady of Fatima Community:

Fr. Mary Babu was tested positive and quarantined himself for 2 weeks. After the home quarantine, he had gone for covid test and was tested negative. He is getting better yet feels tired and weak.

The rest of the Indian District confreres belonging to various communities of ours are doing well and taking precautions to protect themselves from this deadly virus.

With this brief presentation about our Indian District Confreres, we conclude our report. We sincerely thank the General Administration for supporting us at this time of Pandemic COVID-19. Let us support each another and Pray for one another at this time of Pandemic. Henceforth, we kindly request you all to follow the Covid-19 Proto-calls and be at safer zone. Stay Home and Stay Safe.

Yours in Christ!

Fr. Mahesh SCJ Indian District Secretary Fr. Rinu Jose SCJ
Indian District Superior